

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 22 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Saturday 23 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Thursday 21 Jan 2021 at 08:14

Confidence: High confidence for a more settled weekend of weather but some uncertainty about the timing of frontal rain on Monday.

Headline for Friday 22 Jan 2021: Some sunny intervals but a few blustery snow showers too, strong northwesterly winds.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 22 Jan 2021

Blizzards

No Likelihood

Gales

Low Likelihood

Thunderstorms

No Likelihood

Heavy Snow

No Likelihood

Severe chill effect

Medium Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain

No Likelihood

Storm force winds

No Likelihood

Poor visibility

Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight

No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
							
Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Dull	Sunny intervals	Dull	Light snow showers	Light snow showers	Light snow
Precipitation probability							
20%	20%	20%	30%	30%	40%	40%	60%

Forecast for Friday 22 Jan 2021

Weather: Some clear spells overnight and a sharp frost is expected overnight. By day break there will be some bright spells but the risk of a few wintry showers blowing through on the strong northwesterly winds. These will push through quite quickly and some decent sunny spells are also likely.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 70% chance, cloud shrouding the summits in snow showers.

Visibility: Visibility will generally be very good but in snow showers cloud may lower to around 600m temporarily, in any heavier snow showers visibility will become very poor for a time as the shower moves through.

Forecast for Friday 22 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	36/44 W	36/45 W	33/41 W	28/35 W	24/31 W	23/29 W	21/25 W	17/21 W	17/20 SW
600	27/36 W	27/37 W	25/34 W	22/30 W	20/27 W	19/26 W	17/22 W	13/18 W	11/15 SW
300	11/29 W	11/29 W	11/27 W	9/22 W	9/22 W	9/21 W	6/16 W	5/12 W	4/10 SW
Valley	10/27 W	11/27 W	11/26 W	11/23 W	10/21 W	9/20 W	8/18 W	6/13 W	5/12 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-4/-13	-4/-14	-4/-13	-4/-13	-3/-12	-3/-11	-4/-12	-4/-11	-4/-12
600	-1/-9	-1/-10	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-8	-1/-7	-2/-8	-2/-8	-2/-8
300	1/-4	1/-4	1/-4	1/-4	1/-3	1/-3	0/-3	0/-2	-1/-3
Valley	3/-0	3/-0	3/-1	3/-1	4/-0	3/-1	2/-1	2/-1	1/-1
Freezing Level*	400m	400m	400m	400m	400m	400m	300m	300m	300m

*Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.

Meteorologist's View

A few gale force gusts at first on Friday but winds gradually easing, a severe wind chill is likely.

Forecast for Saturday 23 Jan 2021

Weather: A mixture of sunny spells and cloud with a few wintery showers.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly winds 10-15mph.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 80%, a few patches of low cloud will cover the fell tops in showers.

Visibility: Generally very good visibility becoming poor for a time as showers pass through, patches of cloud at 600m and above likely in showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Zero rising to plus 4 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 2 falling to minus 6 Celsius.
Freezing level: 400m falling to 100m.

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Thursday 21 January 2021. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12.25. Full report: Overnight snow settled down to 250m as Storm Christoph blew through. At higher elevations this was being rapidly redistributed onto mainly NE through SE aspects. This was being deposited as unstable soft wind slab in gullies, on steep slopes and in sheltered hollows up to a depth of 50cm. In a significant number of places this is overlying old icy snow which had survived the thaw of the last few days and has now refrozen hard, Additionally there were large volumes of graupal being moved around in the wind. The combination of these factors mean that there are some very unstable areas of snow with a risk of avalanche. Unstable cornices were continuing to build above N through E to S slopes. Please give them a wide berth and advise others with less experience to do likewise. The Helvellyn plateau was generally frozen and scoured clear of snow. However there are some very large drifts to the lee of features and in hollows. The Swirls path is particularly badly affected with deep drifts to negotiate between 600-800m. There is also a large unavoidable patch of hard icy snow at Swirls Steep which requires an ice axe and crampons to safely cross. Swirral and Striding Edges are generally buried under drifts of deep snow overlying old refrozen neve with rime ice forming above 800m. Temperature: minus 2.4 C, Maximum wind speed 43.8mph, Wind chill: minus 13.5 C, Average wind speed: 35.9 mph.

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